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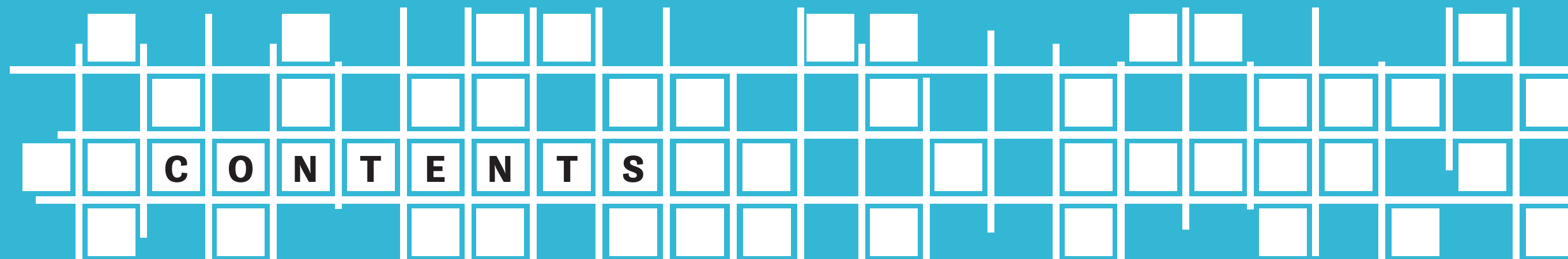
U R B A N

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F A B R I C S

U R B A N

V I S I O N



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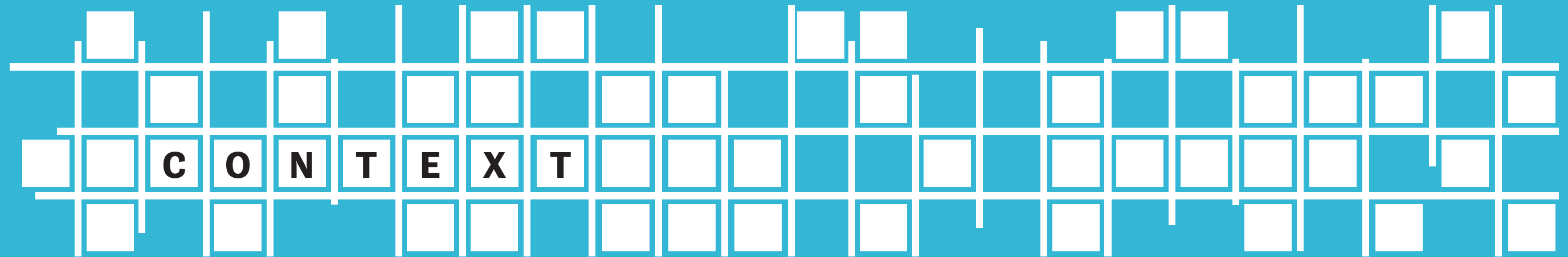
Introduction - Making of Urban Vision

The purpose of this urban vision is to assist both officials and decision-makers in the preparation of the European 15 competition. The vision mapping provides information to competitors about the opportunities of the railway-station neighborhood and needs and wishes for its development. In the process of the mapping, two open workshops were organized for everyone interested and urban vision was developed further by the city development division and by the steering group of the city center development consisting of leading city officials as well as property developers of the area. The mapping also included an open online survey, which received 124 responses in two weeks.

The mapping was done within a very short period of time, and is therefore to be considered as the starting point for designing the vision for the station area of Hyvinkää. The goal is to find design guidelines that direct young designers creating an urban vision for this central but missing piece of the city. Young people are expected to take the vision into a new level, both in content and design.

A strong brand is important to distinguish Hyvinkää station neighborhood from other similar railway station areas in the Helsinki metropolitan area and the main railway line development corridor. Competition for new residents, operators and companies is tough. The mapping of the station site should create a pleasant, different and credible image for its user.





*“ Hyvinkää is in positive
tension and growth*

*Hyvinkää is a well-known
growing city*

*we are proud of our
hometown*



City's Aims

DEVELOPING URBAN HUB

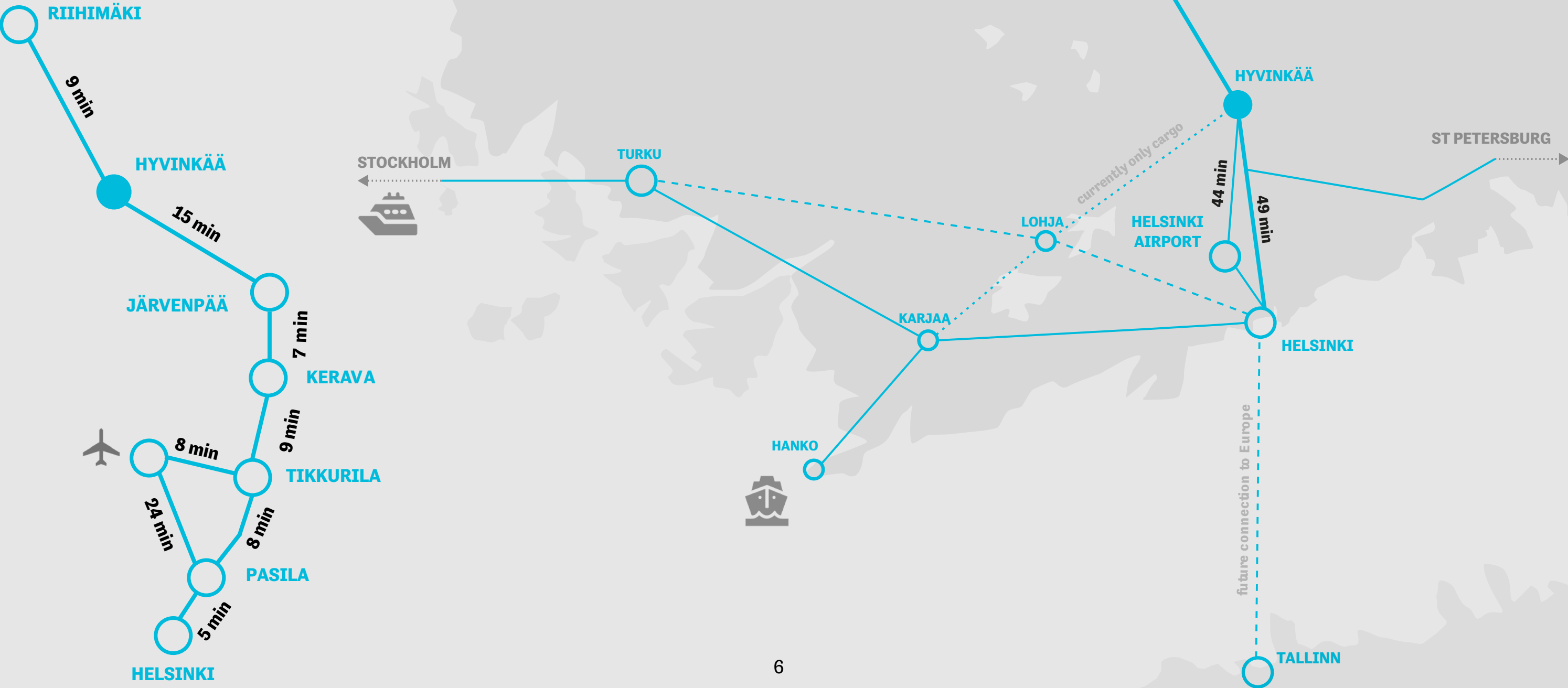
"Our center is a business card in Hyvinkää and an important attraction factor."

Hyvinkään Pelikirja

Kaupunkistrategia vuosille 2017-2027



Location in the Railway Network



Surroundings and Accessibility



Characteristics of the Site

- 1.** Existing level crossing. All the connections must be changed on different level from the railways.
- 2.** Existing underpass. It must be changed in order to provide a new connection to eastern side of the city center.
- 3.** Existing pedestrian bridge. It needs to be reconsidered because it has reached the end of its life cycle.
- 4.** Siltakatu Bridge. Nowadays it is car orientated due to its street section. Siltakatu connection can be modified.
- 5.** Hämeenkatu Bridge. Bridge deck can be extended and pedestrians can be given more space sacrificing car lane width.

connections to be reconsidered

connections to be changed

wooden building possibility to relocate

to be reconsidered or demolished

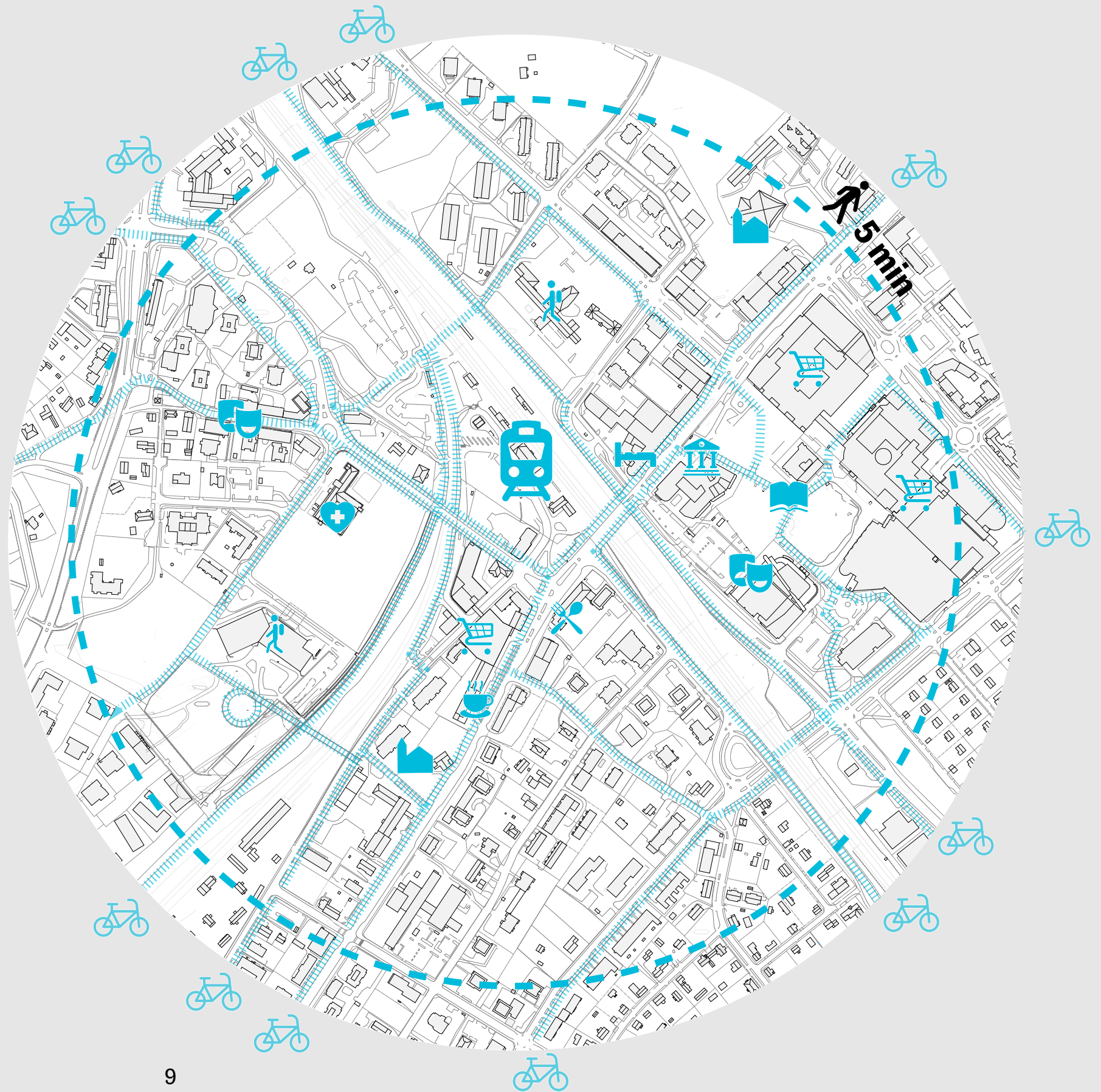
to be integrated possibility to change the use

to be integrated not change the use



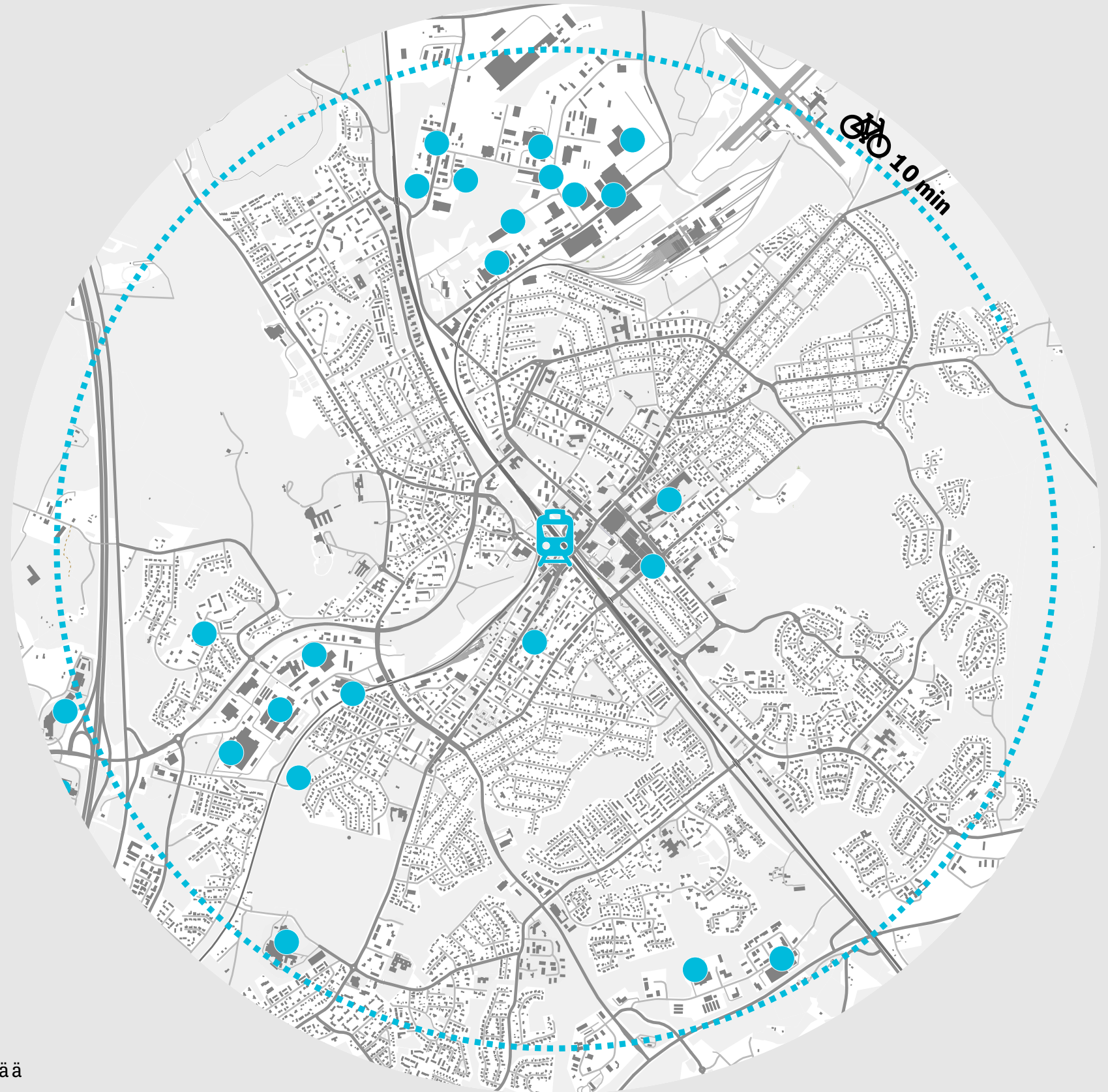
5 min city - Walking center

The railway station is located at the heart of the Hyvinkää center. All services and attractions are within walking distance. The city has managed to keep also all the commercial services in the city center. Competition area is underdeveloped, missing piece of the city center.

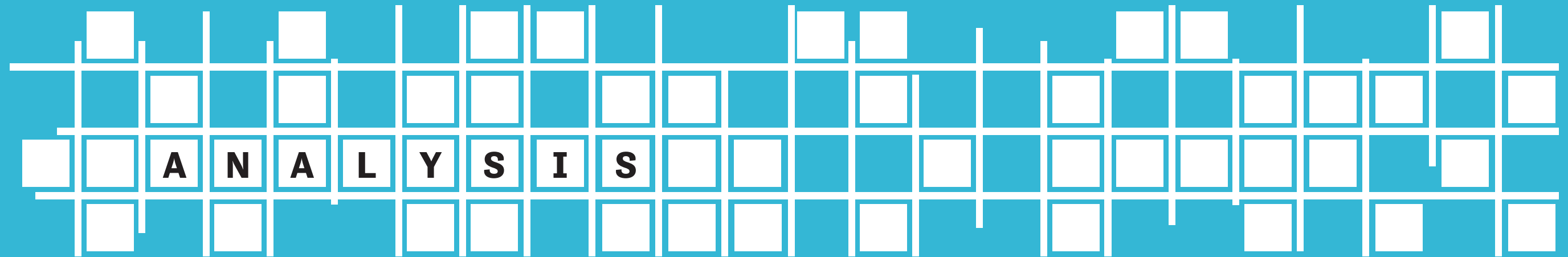


10 min city - Cycling city - even in winter!

Majority of the urban areas including the working places are reachable by bike. There are successful last-mile solutions: last stroll of the working trip by bike.



● the biggest employers of Hyvinkää



what to keep?

what threatens?

what change do we want to see?

what to emphasize?



What to Keep?

HYVINKÄÄ IS A RAILWAY CITY

- The area surrounding the railway station forms the central part of the target area. Hyvinkää's past and future are both linked to the city's railway.
- Finland's main railway line will be incorporated into the core Trans-European Network (TEN-T).
- Hyvinkää also offers excellent links to ports in Hanko and Vuosaari and the Helsinki-Vantaa airport.
- The cities of the future rely on rail.
- The centrally located railway station is an excellent feature for the city, but it is currently not being used to its full advantage.
- In Hyvinkää, the largest shopping centres are centrally located close to the station.

PEOPLE MAKE THE CITY

- Hyvinkää offers a high quality of life for residents. The city is compact, and everything is accessible on foot. Cycling is possible all year round as cycle paths are also maintained during the winter season.
- Hyvinkää is known for the many events that take place in the city every year, including the Red Carpet Finnish film festival, Finland's largest rock festival Rockfest and the extreme metal Steelfest.
- Residents greatly value the high air quality and the greenery present in the city.
- There are a range of services to ensure that families are well

looked after and the leisure opportunities are excellent. Hyvinkää schools, including primary schools and secondary schools and two universities of applied sciences, are all centrally located attracting students from outside Hyvinkää.

- The railway station area, on both sides of the railway line, is the heart of the city's food scene.

DRIVING NEW BUSINESS AND COLLABORATION

- Hyvinkää is a city in its own right, not Helsinki's sleeper suburb. A number of companies are based here providing high-quality employment opportunities, including Kone Oy, Konecranes Oy and HUS Hyvinkää hospital.
- The city offers a wide range of services and amenities that also bring in visitors from further afield. The owners of the building stock in the neighbourhood of the railway station are committed to the city long-term development vision.
- The Finnish Railway Museum is also connected to the railway station site and constitutes a nationally significant cultural zone starting at the station and continuing along the historic Solbonkatu towards Siltakatu, which is home to the historic Arena cinema, housed in a wood building.
- The majority of jobs in Hyvinkää are just a ten-minute cycle ride from the station.
- The local authority continues to work closely with local businesses to improve cycling provision, for example the Last Mile Solution commuting pilot is run in collaboration with Konecranes and is starting with the Hospital.

© Jaakko Blomberg, Aleksis Kiven katu streetmarket



© Julie Brown



© Tom Grimbert, Unsplash



© Nataniel Susantoputra, Unsplash

What Threatens?

WHO ARE THE FUTURE INHABITANTS OF HYVINKÄÄ?

- To whom is the railway station neighborhood being designed and built for?
- Not only small apartments for senior citizens and other residents but also new family homes right in the city center
- Apartments of different sizes
- Services for living
- Different forms of housing management
- The amount of non-Finns will grow in the future - immigrants are the future inhabitants of Hyvinkää

WEAVING THE RAILWAY STATION AREA INTO THE FABRIC OF THE CITY

- The area surrounding the railway station is lacking in structure and it feels underused and even boring.
- Visitors arriving at the station may not immediately realise that they are in the city centre.
- The area has a number of beautiful and highly valuable historic buildings which lend an identity and a sense of presence.
- Hyvinkää future residents will want to live in the immediate vicinity of the railway station to make the most of the rail link to Helsinki. For this reason, it is vitally important that homes, amenities and a new sense of urban vitality are brought into the area.
- A multi-disciplinary and broad-ranging collaborative effort is needed to ensure that the area is developed to its full potential and woven into the fabric of the city.

ARE OTHER RAILWAY CITIES MORE ATTRACTIVE?

- Helsinki is currently experiencing robust growth and, along with other cities along the main railway line corridor, is attractive also to young families.
- Finland's main railway line is an artery that connects Finland to the wider European railway network and the global airport network. In line with the global trend, Finnish cities are experiencing strong growth around railway station areas.
- All cities along the the main railway line will benefit from development that takes place in this corridor and collaboration with our neighbours is absolutely vital.
- A key issue is how we construct our identity in relation to our neighbouring cities – we must be able to offer something different, something genuine and something special that others in the region cannot provide.
- Hyvinkää has almost 50,000 inhabitants and is the fifth largest city in Uusimaa. It forms part of the Greater Helsinki metropolitan area but is also an independent regional centre.

© Jaakko Blomberg, Free City of Kalasatama



© Jaakko Blomberg, Free City of Kalasatama



© Hyvinkää Red Carpet Filmfestival



© Annelis, Hyvinkää railway station

What Change Do We Want to See?

NEW USES FOR STATION AND RAILWAY YARDS

- Allow for some empty space only if it does not look like a wasteland.
- Sense of dynamism and activity. Temporary uses could be created for areas that are currently in disuse.
- Current level crossings must be changed. You can cross the railways only with underground or overground solutions.
- The current underground passage from the station extends only to the platforms and does not reach the east side of the city center.
- Current platform areas are not covered, need to be upgraded ie. through greening and the addition of canopies
- The station is located in the lowest part of the area, which means that you need to take a multi-layered approach to this issue.

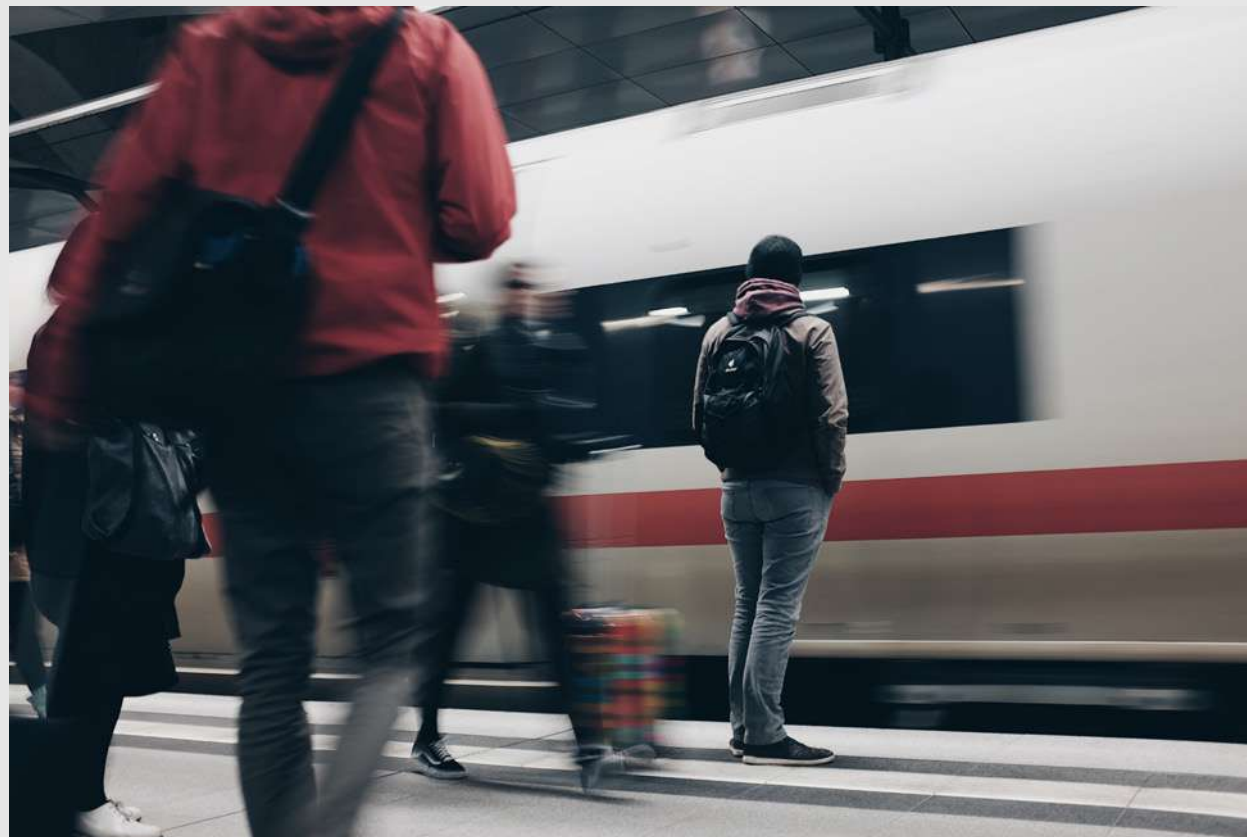
NEW PARKING AND URBAN MOBILITY SOLUTIONS

- Sustainable proposals for parking that will allow us to meet the demand from new residents and park & ride users. This could involve centralised parking, car clubs and other initiatives. The park & ride service will need to be linked to other services, including car and cycle washing and maintenance or similar.
- How the residential dwellings and other local functions link in with car parking facilities, ie. children's day care services, online shopping collection points, commercial property, etc.
- A safe and secure bicycle parking facility is an everyday luxury.

THE STATION NEIGHBOURHOOD MUST FEEL LIKE IT'S PART OF THE CITY CENTRE

- Hyvinkää city centre begins at the railway station.
- Leisure opportunities, new services, jobs, including offices and small-scale manufacturing/production.
- Mixed facilities, hybrid construction and high-rise developments. Landmarks and hybrid construction initiatives are already part of the mix in Hyvinkää, with examples including the KONE Oy elevator test laboratory and the Kymppikerros residential block.
- Beautiful, green, welcoming urban environment.
- Key lines of sight remain unobstructed, including the long views afforded towards Hyvinkää Church, designed by notable Finnish architect Aarno Ruusuvuori.
- Layers of history present within this area. Stitch together the old and the new elements. Find new uses for the historic buildings within the area.
- Beautiful and distinctive buildings, keep the identity of the area.
- Commercial services, such a new bricks-and-mortar retail concept. Coffee shops alone will not be sufficient to sustain the area as this is not the centre of Helsinki.
- Car traffic in the core areas will need to be restricted with less space allocated to cars.

© Mike Kotsch, Unsplash



© Himomatkustaja, Hyvinkää Rockfest



Pertti Kurikan nimipäivät
© Erika Luoto / Red Carpet Film Festival



© Anton Darius, Unsplash

What to Emphasize?

IDEAL CITY FOR PEDESTRIANS AND CYCLISTS WITH THE STATION AT ITS HEART

- Sustainable, high-quality and clean everyday life supported by first-rate pedestrian and cycling infrastructure.
- Everything is close by! Large swathes of the city centre are just a 5 minutes walk away and almost everywhere in the city can be reached by bike in just 10 minutes.
- Walking and cycling are not just a way of getting from A to B but also a sustainable lifestyle choice offering health and wellbeing, increased local mobility and wonderful experiences.
- More accessible parking facilities for cars and bikes and reduce their visibility. Parking facilities will be included in the local amenities.

NEW + OLD + URBAN + GREEN

- Bring together the existing historic building stock and new developments.
- Beautiful, green, welcoming urban environment.
- Dense urban fabric interspersed with revitalising greenspaces.
- Miniature greenhouses for hire targeted at both residents and commuters.
- Refurbish the city's historic "restaurant rows" and create new ones.
- New railway station quarter.

FREQUENT, HIGH-QUALITY TRANSPORT LINKS

- Hyvinkää offers excellent links for international, domestic and local travel.
- Parking services (cars, bicycles).
- High-quality and aesthetically pleasing links between the different parts of the city.
- Underpasses and the space beneath bridges can be put to good use as waiting areas or similar.
- Comfort, imaginative use of high-quality materials, protection from the elements (cold and wind) and natural light.

Portti
© Erika Luoto / Red Carpet Film Festival



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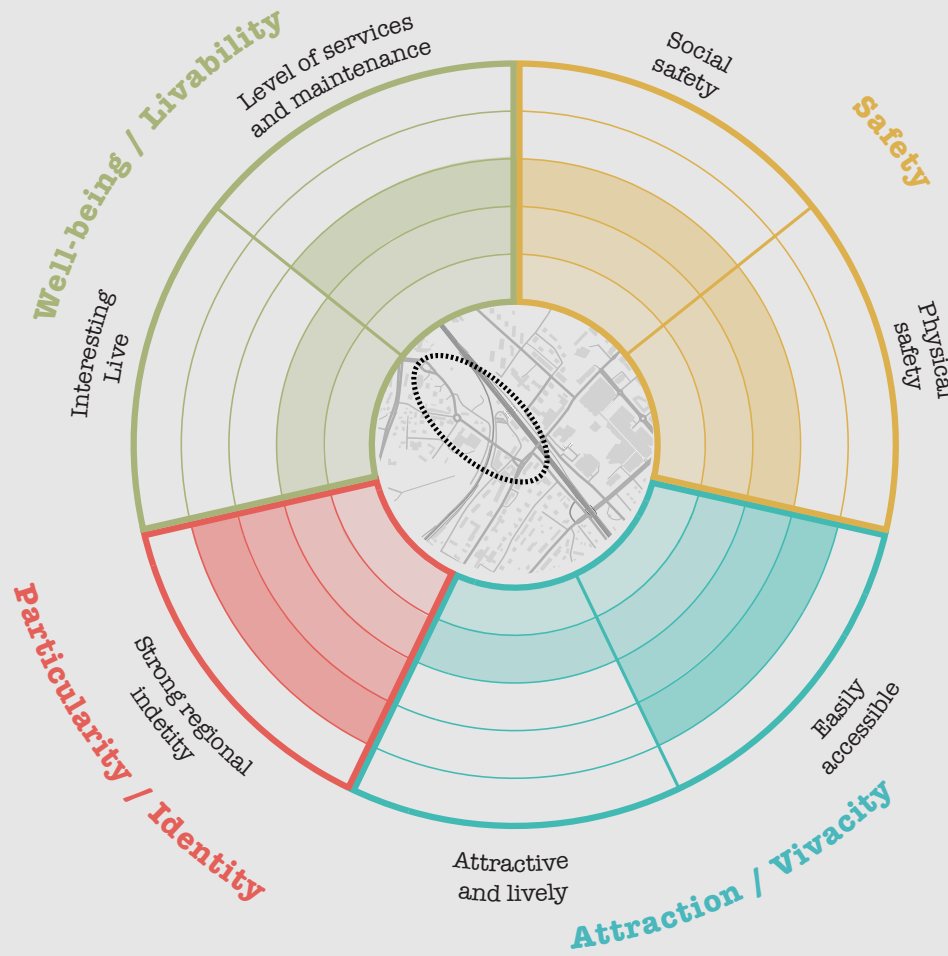
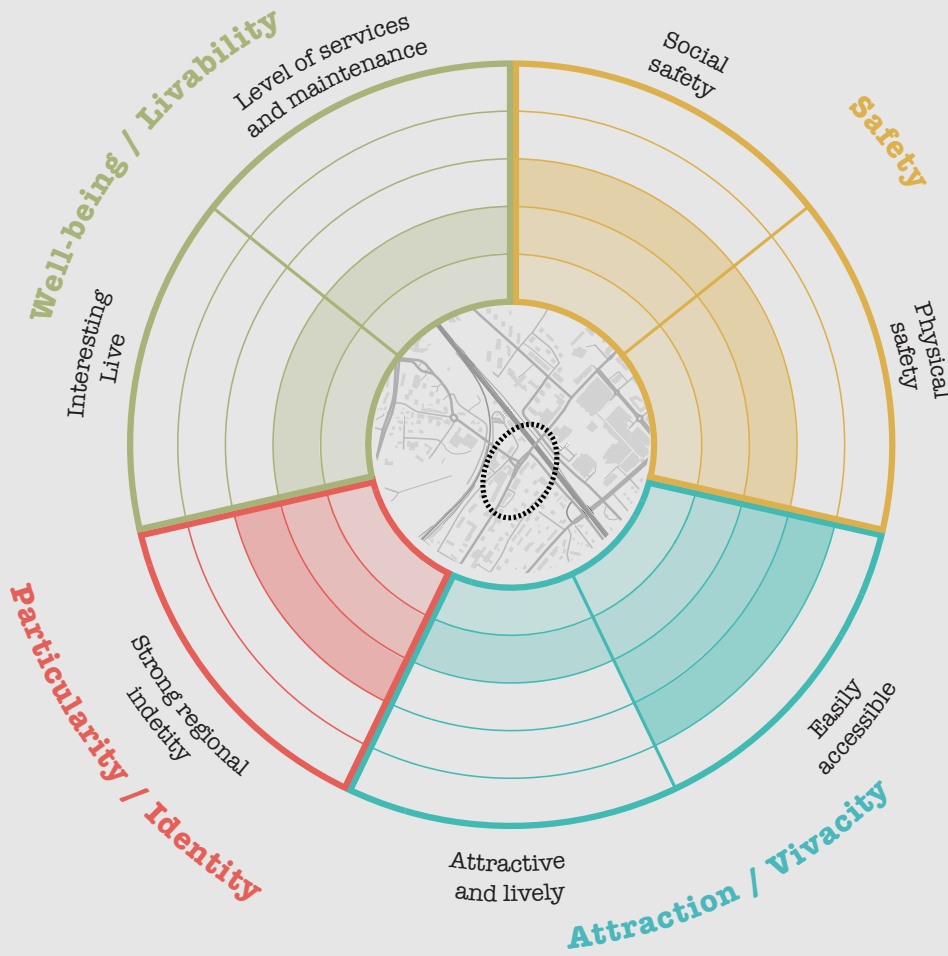
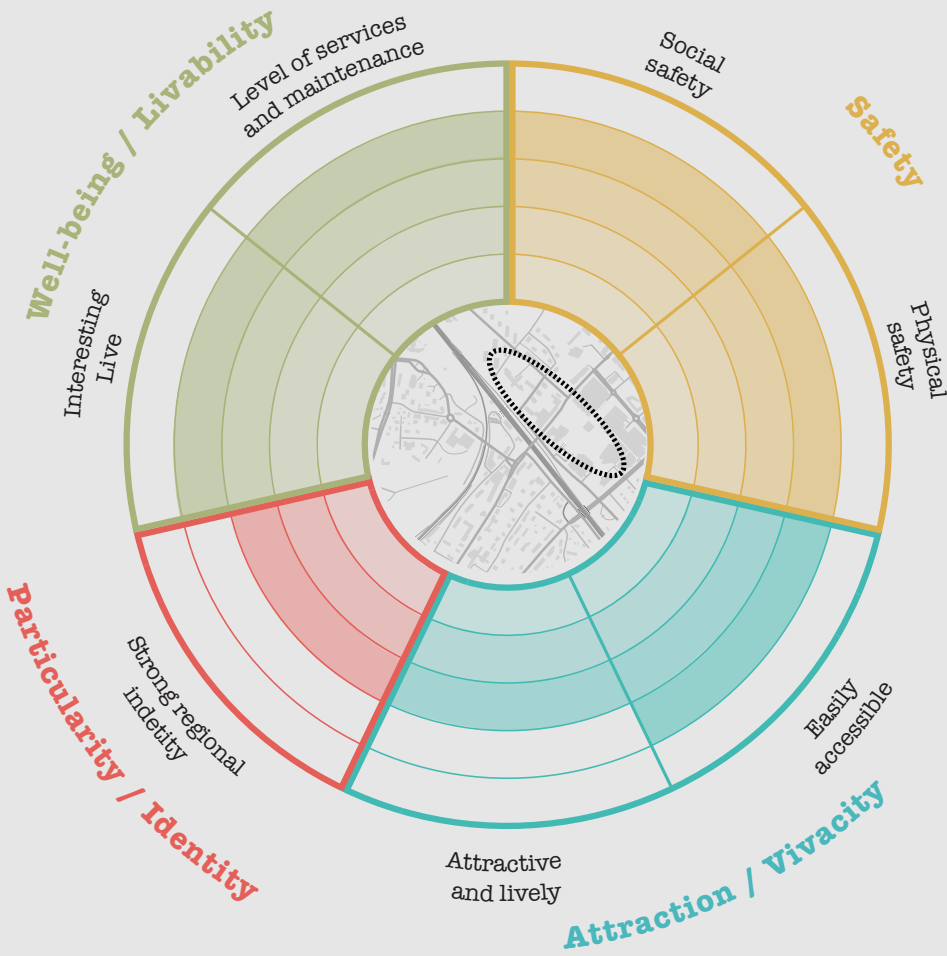
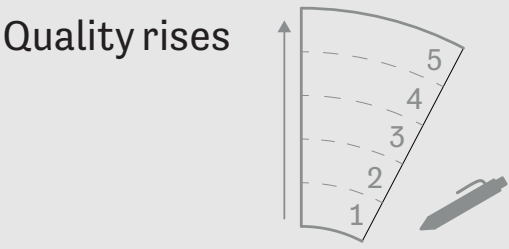
© Eija Mäki vuoti, Hyvinkää Steel Fest



Outi Mäenpää ja Vesa-Matti Loiri
© Henni Hyvärinen / Red Carpet Film Festival

Results of the Survey: Assessment and Comparison of Quality Factors

The eastern side of the city center is perceived as a high-quality, attractive and safe environment. The accessibility of all regions is considered to be good. The old buildings of the station complex as well as the greenery of the area are considered to be an identity-enhancing factor, and the area is perceived to be even more special than the east side.



What would improve the attractiveness and livability of the competition area?

- There are good connections to and from the area.
- The area is welcoming. Trees and places to stay.
- The buildings are beautiful and the street space is welcoming.
- Everything is close and everyday life easy
- There are interesting activities, services, shops, cafes etc.
- The area is pleasant for people.
- There are events, happenings and meeting places in the area, even without an entrance fee.
- There is a wide range of housing in the area.

The five most important factors to improve the area:

- High quality neighbourhood; city squares, streets, trees, benches, and places to stay, etc.
- Raising and appreciating local history
- Versatile new construction: business space, cultural space, housing etc.
- The current scale, airiness and greenery are good to keep.
- Urban and higher construction.

V I S I O N

W E A V I N G

U R B A N

F A B R I C S

Who is All This for?

Area for many generations:

- Active seniors and families
- Even larger immigrant families
- Different lifestyles and phases of life
- Park & Ride (take advantage of the railway station as a link)
- Visitors
- New era entrepreneurs and service providers
- City event organizers

The goal is to maximize the vitality of the area without sacrificing the livability (reference year 2050). The designer is asked to solve the division of functions into services, office space and housing, etc.



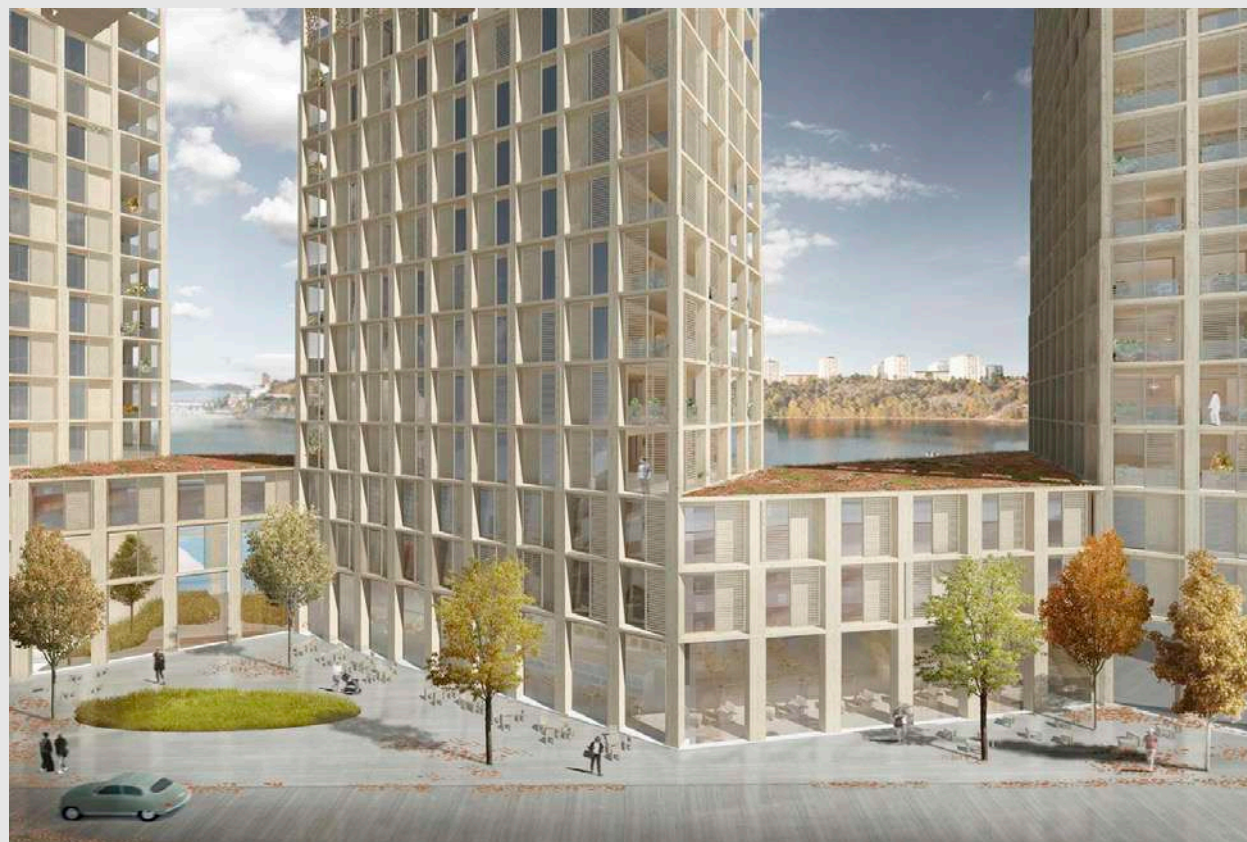


Diverse hybrid quarters
+
Cozy experience on ground level
+
Urban green
+
High-rise buildings

Asakusa Culture Center, Tokio, Japan / Kengo Kuma & Associates



Link Hybrid Towers, Graz, Austria / BLAU, European 13



Wooden High Rise Housing, Stockholm, Sweden / Tham & Videgård

“What more can a tower give to the inhabitants?”
“No boring box houses!”
“Green urban environment for everyone!”
“Living at the station - take lift down, kid at the daycare & train to work, dinner at the nearby restaurant”
“Not only housing but hybrid forms of living - more city!”
“New concept for urban edges on ground level””



New & old
- Open-mindedly together
creating new action for the city

Caixa Forum, Madrid / Herzog & De Meuron



British Film Institute, London, UK / Carmody Groarke



Temporary Museum, Helensburgh, United Kingdom / Carmody Groarke



“New architecture truly inspired by the local context!”

“Green places for urban cultivation!”

“Character and charm of the old buildings!”

“Co-working, workshops, artists, handicrafts”

“The built heritage is an essential part of identity!”





New buzz for the station

- Services, covered spaces, bicycle parking, park & ride, build heritage & station park

Railway station, Helsingborg, Sweden / Tengbom



Railway station, Ede (68,000 inhabitants), Netherlands / Mecanoo



“

“Don’t forget car drivers”

“Beautiful, green & comfortable”

“People-sized architecture!!”

*“Easy living - Walking and bicycling are part of
a moving ecological lifestyle”*

“High-quality and ambitious architecture”

“Sheltered, walk through interior spaces”

”



City for people
- Weaving urban encounters

New Road, Brighton, UK / Gehl people



Le Parc de la Vallée, Lille, France / Gehl people



“
“Food & Fire - bringing people together”
“**Railway to heaven**”
“Beautiful streets & alleys!”
“Creating places creates events!”
“Different uses of bridges and wide Hyvinkää streets”
”



VISION

“Weaving Urban Fabrics”



Design guidelines for young designers

**Under no
circumstances...**



**It would be
great if...**

Must have...

Under no circumstances...

...take the model from metropolitan cities because Hyvinkää is a city with less than 75,000 inhabitants.

...ordinary and boring.

...forget that the area is at the same time an urban link, we need parking spaces for bicycles and cars etc.

...boring construction along the railway.

...only residential or one-sided design.

...to tear everything down, layers of history can be highlighted through new construction.

...mere box houses.

...design for cars.

Must have...

...an urban experience when getting off the train.

...a railway station with more life than commuting.

...places suitable for high-rise buildings must be identified and adapted to lower construction in order to provide urban feeling on the ground level.

...beautiful, green, comfortable.

...beautiful alleys and surroundings.

...green roofs, courtyard gardens, urban culture, beautiful new era parks and places for city events.

...diverse apartments, as well as interesting new urban activities, culture, services and shops - not just cafes.

...structures and spaces that support communal living - privacy within your home and community at your doorstep.

...new life styles embracing the railway.

...design for people.

It would be great if...

...the area's coziness is enriched with e.g. a water theme (the area is a valuable groundwater area).

...there would be a living fire in the area, because fire and food bring people together.

...there are also venues, cafes, arts and crafts and meeting places without entrance fees.

...the railway station neighborhood would also attract families to the area (liveliness and livability of the city, proximity to outdoor activities, nearness of services).

...a family center (support functions for families, early childhood education etc.).

...we would get a bridge deck to Hämeensilta bridge.

...the design provides a realistic and feasible entity / subentity.



Design drivers



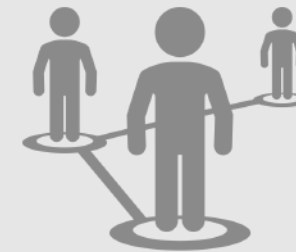
Eye-level based
design and
Human-to-Human
mentality in the
design



Sense of
community



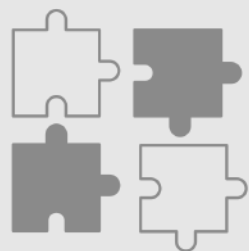
Hybrid design
strategy
(affordability and
feasibility)



Reassessing the
city transport
system plan



Re-linking with
Traditions



Linking with the
surrounding
neighborhoods



Reduce the
barrier effect
caused by the
railway line



Integration of
nature inside
the city



Resilience and
proximity



Ecology and
Sustainability



HYVINKÄÄ

collaboratorio
Architecture & Research